

# Weekly Citizen

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Congratulate you all, fellow citizens, on the inspiring and auspicious circumstances under which we meet. This is the day of prosperity in the present, and of encouragement and high hopes for the future.

The magnificent exhibition of the products of our territories now spread before us, the great mass of people here assembled, from all sections of New Mexico, tell of the success of our business interests and of the prosperity and happiness of the people.

From all over our broad domain men, women and children have come up to this great annual festival, to form new acquaintances and renew old ones, to bring for exhibition choice products of the field, the orchard, the mine and the range, and to view the wonderful specimens exhibited by others and to rejoice together over the greatness of the land in which we dwell, and over its prospects for present and its brilliant future.

Apart from the obvious advantages derived from these exhibitions, the opportunity for the purchase of various sections of the territory to become acquainted with their effects, and with the products of their different sections, is of great benefit. For, undoubtedly, no investment in the country that pays, are equaled with all of the parts. There are gathered here the most intelligent and energetic of the citizens of New Mexico. Those who have traveled the world over for gold and are the best informed as to its resources. And yet I venture to say that among them all there are not five persons who have ever visited all of our mountain ranges. This may sound strange, but we sometimes forget how large a part of the earth's surface is comprised within our limits.

New Mexico is about exactly equal in area with the six New England states, New York, New Jersey combined. These railroads run in all directions, yet no one would expect the people of Cape May to be familiar with Ogallala and Malone or the streams of Buffalo to have any intimate acquaintance with the lumbermen of Cape Cod or the lumbermen on the headwaters of the Penobscot and the Kennebec. To take another example, New Mexico has almost the same area of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and, indeed, and more, is expected to be familiar personally with all parts of the United Kingdom.

This is one of the difficulties under which we labor, and it leads us to far seek much modesty with regard to our resources. As a rule we are ignorant of our own greatness, and of the wonderful variety of wealth which lies within our borders. I know how powerfully I have been impressed as I have visited for the first time each part of the territory, with the wonderful capabilities of the different countries. It has seemed, in turn, as if each must be the most favored spot on earth, and thus experience is similar to that of every man who travels throughout this vast empire.

When one views the verdant plains of eastern Colorado, covered with herds of cattle, changing to the west into the agricultural lands along the Arkansas, the Pecos and the Chama, dotted with the coal mines of Blanding and the pine forests of Cattail, and rising into the golden mountains and gold-bearing streams of Elizabethtown, he is apt to say "This truly is the promised land."

He goes to the Mora, sees the wealth of sheep and with him the east, the rich copper mines at Cuyote, and the inexhaustible timber region of the west, and thinks he has found even a better spot.

He goes to the great county of San Miguel, with its vast prairies, favored resources, its famous health giving springs, and its energetic people, and he feels that providence has bestowed enough material blessings there to form an empire of itself.

He crosses the mountains to Taos, and viewing the expanse of her beautiful valley, and her wonderful wealth of golden wheat, with heads so close and even that one might almost walk upon them, as on a floor, he says "Surely this is a realization of the happy valley of the Abyssinian Prince."

He goes on to Rio Arriba, and looks upon the fertile fields of the upper Rio Grande and the Chama, the spot first chosen by Onate as his capital, and then proceeds on to the vast forests of gigantic pines, now being fitted for the use of man, and examining the soil he can be better one in which to live.

Still onward to San Juan, and there the beautiful rivers, the abundance of water, the waving grain and the vast cotton fields with the choicest frost challenges his admiration.

Such again he comes to Santa Fe, where the ancient city nestling among the hills, with unequalled climate, the charm of ancient story, and fruit fit for the gods, presents a peaceful contrast to the ancient industries which thrice amid gold and silver, copper and lead, oil and precious stones, at Cerillos and San Pedro, and he says "Verily this is the garden spot of the earth."

Down the beautiful valley to the city where we meet to day, through the verdant fields and vine-clad hills of Bernillo, the great central county, seeing all it contains from the evidences of man's energy and enterprise around us, here, to the far famed springs of Jemez, and the ruins of ancient pueblos, and he feels that here is the place where both the man of business and the man of pleasure may find a congenial home.

Still down the valley to Valencia, nose miles of trees, and then through the quiet westward, where sheep and lambs are numbered by scores of thousands, while the plains and the sides of mountain to the giant forests in the west, and he feels that this is truly a land of wine and oil, of milk and honey.

Then southward to Socorro, where the town sits like an emerald jewel in the valley, almost under the shadow of the great mountain summits with the echoes from the shelter and the miles where the product of the vast mines within the county limits are reflected, while the coal of Cartago and the coke of San Antonio with the distant riches of the Mogollons meets his eye, and he says "Verily, for natural resources, this exceeds all else that I have seen."

Eastward, across broad plains to Lincoln, and as he sees the great product of gold, the clear, swift streams, the cattle on a thousand hills, and teams of the latest wealth of silver, lead and coal only awaiting swifter connection with the outside world, he thinks that here indeed is the true home to seek as soon as railroads come to afford a market for her sleeping robes.

Still eastward to the Pecos where the twin counties of Chaves and Eddy, the last are showing that though young in years they are strong and populous, and there to see the wonderful flow of water from the springs that form a full-grown river at one bound, and marvels at the rich luxur-

iance of the Russell farms and the enormous yield of its alfalfa fields; and going down to Eddy is lost in admiration at the enterprise shown in its irrigating system, and in the almost magical building of a modern city within a single year, and he feels that in this fertile valley and among those men of energy and power, are really greater inducements than elsewhere.

Then back to Dona Ana on the lower Rio Grande, where the famous soil, very sandy, extremely porous, and perfectly fertile, mixed with all manner of grain and fruit, and teeming with the product of the field and vineyard, while the neighboring Organ mountains are both beautiful and rich in mineral wealth, and he says as many another has said before him, "Here let me live and die."

Still onward to Sierra, crossed and recrossed by an mountain filled with the treasures of the precious metals, and he visits Lake Valley and bears the name of the Bridal chamber, and sees Holbrook, Kingston and the Black Range district, he feels assured that no spot on earth of equal size contains such an exhaustless store of mineral riches as does that country.

And lastly to Torrington, and as he hears the story of old Santa Rita and views the ceaseless flow of wealth from her more modern mines, sees ore pure and smelted, ore refined, and learns of the varied treasures daily unearthed throughout the wide area from George Town to Pinedale, to Carbon and Coal Hill, he comes to the conclusion with which nature has bestowed her greatest gifts and envies those who live in those treasuries of wealth.

Then he stands bewildered by this succession of attractions, and wishes in his honest heart, that he had sixteen lives to lead, that each might be spent in each of these unfolding regions.

In fact hardly those who have seen even a locality of ours have any just idea of the varied sources of wealth which exist within our borders, and of the great future which is in store for those who will succeed us.

It was my privilege eight years ago to speak in this very place of the opening of the fair in 1883, and I then started some of the more conservative of the belief that the most substantial of territory of our nation is endowed by the Creator with a great variety and extent of natural resources as New Mexico.

I felt assured that this was absolutely true, and by comparison somewhat in doubt, I tried to prove its correctness to the present.

But it appears truly true, that it is far from being so now. For then we knew little of the Pecos valley, the majority of our fertile acres by great systems of irrigation was untouched, or many in more recent years were yet un-discovered, and no count was made of the vast beds of gypsum, of alabamite and gypsum, nor of the redites and other ornamental stones which have since come into prominence.

With the increased knowledge that we now have, few will dispute the position. God has endowed us with natural resources in the most generous manner. But resources of themselves are of no value, so long as they lie idle, and they are useless. It is necessary that they should be developed by human enterprise. Some places are speedily endowed by nature, but lack development, in others there is plenty of enterprise waiting to exert itself, but there is nothing for it to operate upon. When these two elements come together, when we have certain and available success.

At a young age, not addressing the similar audience I found in the course of my pastoral labors, not to foster vanity or self-conceit, but to show the real extent to which we are making them useful, and to point out the vast field for profitable employment which their proper development presented.

I observed that in the midst of our unsurpassed wheat lands, we were importing over 10,000 tons of wheat and flour each year. That with a soil which is specially adapted to corn, we are using over 8,000 tons of corn and meat from abroad.

That while our oats are superior to any grown elsewhere, yet we import 3,000 tons more than we raise.

That with the best alfalfa and grass land in existence, we were using over 8,000 tons of hay beyond our own production.

That with vegetables unsurpassed in quality and size, as you can see yourselves to day, we are buying 1,000 tons from other states. That beans are a favorite product in this valley, yet in this city alone you import 10,000 pounds from abroad.

And that even in the case of fruit, here this land of the orchard, the vineyard, we are actually using 20,000 tons in short, that in to every staple product, the home supply did not equal the home demand.

I drew attention to the not to discourage but to stimulate and to show to our people as well as to non residents, that the home market, already existing here unsatisfied, presented the finest opportunity for energy and enterprise that could be imagined, and that the development of our resources by producing the articles thus shown to be needed, was the most safe and profitable of business projects.

If we return to mining, which many consider our most important industry, we find unprecedented activity prevailing.

Everywhere new mines are being developed, and old ones reopened. Some of the camps are again alive with industry.

It is proposed to purchase 100 tons to 120 tons of the same universal fuel, the Mexican border. The copper mines of Mori county are actively at work and using a ton concentrator.

The extraordinary riches of "Old Abe" at White Oaks, in gold, and the "Silver Cell" in Grant county, the ore from which was refused at the smelter because it was not good.

There is no record of any other state from which we can regard New Mexican as having made marked advance.

As surely nothing could be a better cause of congratulation than this.

To begin with agriculture, the acreage in crops has been largely increased all over the territory. This is not confined to any locality or any particular set of persons. It is general and nearly uniform from San Juan to Eddy and from Cimarron to Grant.

A correspondent in the extreme northwest says, "Our acreage has increased fully twenty per cent, and new ditch now being constructed will cause a still larger gain next year." A new flouring mill is just erected; self binders are seen where heretofore hand cradles were used; steam threshers are taking the place of sheep and goats as well as of horse power machines. The people have dropped old styles of farming and are using all modern facilities.

It was refreshing on entering a commission house in Las Vegas a few weeks ago to see great piles of sacks of New Mexican winter wheat of splendid quality, and produced at the rate of 37 bushels to the acre, a place occupied a year ago by Kansas flour.

The man at Española is now gathering the product of over 100 acres of beans. In the Taos valley, in the north, the wheat crop is 275,000 bushels, and if we can the territory to the extreme south, still on the Texas line, the people of the little town of La Mesa and its neighbors are harvesting 10,000 bushels of wheat, 10,000 of barley, 2,000 of corn, 15,000 pounds of beans and 200,000 pounds of mimos, besides 2,000 tons of alfalfa. In San Miguel where three years ago the amount of cultivated grass was very small, there are now 5,000 acres of timo-

th. All along the Rio Grande, new fields are to be seen; and on the Pecos the great stacks tell of a product of 7 tons to the acre.

If we turn to horticulture, the advance is still more marked. San Juan county, which ten years ago was only occupied by catties, now contains 500 acres of orchard, about half of which was planted last year, and is sending to market ton after ton sets of pounds of apples, 600,000 pounds of apples and 330,000 of other fruits. Santa Fe county is producing 600,000 pounds of apples and 330,000 of other fruits. A count just made in Sandoval county shows that it contains 100,000 fruit trees and 480,000 grape vines, one single orchard, raised entirely without irrigation, contains over 7,000 trees, many of which were planted this year. The action of that legislature, generally, was progressive and salutary. It provided for the improvement of roads, for the incorporation of villages, for the protection of the cattle interest, for the suppression of trusts, for the impartial selection of juries, for the reduction of liquor selling, and most important of all, for the establishment of an efficient system of public schools. The alliterative acts of our people have long been used as a reproach to us, but the occasion for this was not come.

The new census shows that, while our population increased 28 percent from 1880 to 1890, the number of our enrolled schools increased 283 percent, or ten times as rapidly. And the new school laws will be in force Nov. 1. Many of the public schools have been covered with public schools, and the new ones to be built will be the equal of that in the most favored lands.

This year the first mail has been used as a reproach to us, but the occasion for this was not come.

Meantime the improved systems of irrigation, on which we have to depend for the multiplication of our area of usefulness, are advancing rapidly.

In the northeast, the Springer system with over 50 miles of ditches, 1,000 acres, covers 22,000 acres, and the Vicksburg system, with 57 miles of ditches and 10 reservoirs, supplies 30,000 acres.

In the southwest, there are 200 miles of ditch, completed and in process of construction, giving fertility to 21,000 acres.

In the southeast, the Pecos valley system, already largely completed, about 3 miles of main ditch and 120 of laterals, is in operation, with its great dam 110 feet long and 20 feet at the base, and its 10 miles in length will soon supply almost 200,000 acres with the necessary irrigation. And in the southwest, the works along the Mimbres are making a new problem, and will supply a section of wonderful fertility with water resources for successful cultivation.

These may be said to be the leading enterprises of the territory. But the great central region is not to be left out with the needed water supply. More than 50 companies have been organized for irrigation purposes, and several are in operation.

The valley of the Rio Grande presents the most favorable opportunities for irrigation operations of this kind, and the present narrow strip of cultivated land can be widened very materially by a proper disposition of the water which flows southward from the north, and is not allowed to be wasted.

It is expected that before the end of the year, the work of constructing the great ditch proposed for that purpose will be in an advanced stage.

We may the man who is forced to travel in mud frozen snow and perpetual snow, or under the burning sun of the equator, although he may be amassing a fortune while enduring the pangs of extreme cold or heat. The poet says "Better 50 years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay," and surely one could rather live a life of moderate duration, full of all comforts and happiness, than to purchase more length of days by the endurance of suffering.

Fortunately, in our case, a long life and a happy life go together. It may be said without hesitation that there is no part of the whole world in which life is naturally agreeable and so entirely devoid of drawbacks, as here in New Mexico.

We all remember the strand of seafarers for whom the coast of southern California a few years ago. An examination showed that more than one third of those thus bent on changing their location came from the state of the northwest, and were practically driven out by the cold and discomforts of the severe winters of that section.

I can versed with many myself and the story was almost uniform. They had lived for years in Iowa, Minnesota, or some similar state, had become the possessors of good farms and a moderate competence, and now felt that they had earned immortality for the rest of their lives from the sufferings caused by the extreme of cold.

Unfortunately, many in flying from one evil fell into another, and have since found themselves the victims of damp, hot climates, of insect pests and all manner of discomforts.

Here we seem to enjoy the freedom from discomforts which characterized the primitive Eden. The summer passes with no thought of suffering from heat, even the daily warmth necessary for healthy vegetation. Followed by the refreshing coolness of the mountain night, the winter knows no severity, and the snowfall is only sufficient to furnish the grasses of the plains. Not only in its agreeable features, but in point of healthfulness, the climate ranks far above that of any other state, and the death rate from pulmonary disease is the lowest known to earth, and while the residents of Denver and Colorado Springs are suffering with heat or suffering from cold those at our favored resorts are enjoying all the delights of a charming and equable temperature.

No reptile or insect of danger or annoyance can be counted as a disagreeable feature within our borders. The California pests are unknown, and bars and netting unheard of. No locusts or grasshoppers, or other destructive creatures to speak of, and the same universal fuel, the Mexican border.

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The "Silver Cell" in Grant county, the ore from which was refused at the smelter because it was not good.

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The health giving sunshine is so universal that, by common consent, New Mexico has assumed the title of "Sun Shine State."

The unhealthiness of life is generally caused, not by great misfortunes, but by the constant recurrence to petty annoyances.

Many of these in other localities are connected with the weather. It is too hot, or too cold, or too rainy, or too muddy, or perhaps it is the flies which annoy or the mosquitos which abound.

In some sections even more unpleasant insects make life miserable. We are so accustomed to freedom from all these annoyances that we have almost forgotten that they exist; like other advantages we enjoy we have ceased to appreciate this blessing. But nevertheless it is worthy the full consideration when weighing the happiness of our lives.

The future is bright before us. Let us see that we have the coming and bid adieu to the past.

Let us work together.

Let us work together.